

action defeat the President's plans, or, if they were successful, to profit by them. They refused to take up the resolutions of the Federalists and passed a resolution of "perfect confidence in the vigilance and wisdom of the Executive."

The overwhelming power of the administration had been shown, and all intermeddling by Congress effectually checked, but the popular pressure from the West was daily increasing, and its temper was seriously affecting the East.. Some move had to be made by the Executive; and, on January nth, the President nominated R. R. Livingston to be "Minister Plenipotentiary and James Monroe to be Minister Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, with full powers \* \* \* to enter into a treaty or convention with the First Consul of France for the purpose of enlarging and more effectually securing our rights and interests in the river Mississippi and in the Territories eastward thereof." As Spain had not yet formally transferred Louisiana, he at the same time nominated Monroe and Charles Pinckney to have like powers at the Court of Spain, if it should be necessary. The Senate immediately confirmed the nominations.

Jefferson's letter to Monroe, begging him to accept the appointment, admitted that the measure was aimed, primarily, to quiet the country. "Remonstrances, memorials, etc., are now circulating through the whole of the western country, and signed by the body of people. The measures we have been pursuing, being invisible, do not satisfy their minds. Something sensible, therefore, has become

necessary. \* \* \* It was essential, then, to send a Minister Extraordinary to be joined with the ordinary one, with discretionary powers. \* \* \* The measure has already silenced the Federalists here. Congress will no longer be agitated by them; and the country \will become calm as fast as the information extends over it." That Jefferson was trying to gain time and was playing home politics is shown by the fact that Monroe did not get his instructions and sail before the second week of March.

The Federalist opposition was now centered in fanning the war spirit of the West against Spain. \$2,000,000 had been.